

REMARKS

Claims 9-21, 29, 36-39 and 42-52 have been previously allowed. Claims 18-21, 36-39 and 42-47 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry of the foregoing amendments are respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that the amendment does not involve a reopening of prosecution and is therefore appropriate for approval and entry in an amendment under 37 CFR 1.312. MPEP 714.16. Claims 9-17, 29 and 48-52 are pending and under consideration.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

STEIN, MCEWEN & BUI, LLP

Date: 5/7/07

By: Douglas X. Rodríguez
Douglas X. Rodríguez
Registration No. 47,269

1400 Eye St., NW
Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 216-9505
Facsimile: (202) 216-951